

Attorney Docket No. 06089/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Keiichi TANAKA  
Serial No. : 10/569,167  
Deposited : February 22, 2006  
For : VACUUM DEVICE, OPERATION  
METHOD FOR VACUUM DEVICE,  
EXPOSURE SYSTEM, AND  
OPERATION METHOD FOR  
EXPOSURE SYSTEM

Art Unit :

Examiner :

Customer No.: 01933

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:


- (1) Copy of International Search Report issued in the International application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications (except U.S. patent publication); and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

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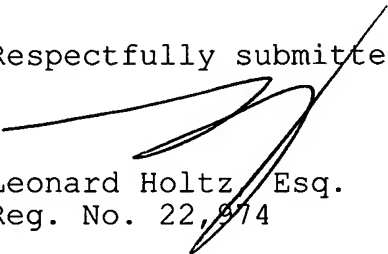
In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by credit card (Form PTO-2038 attached hereto), authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

US 2001/0035942 is a counterpart of JP 2001-345262, and is also listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,874

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.  
220 Fifth Avenue, 16th Floor  
New York, New York 10001-7708  
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900  
Fax. No. (212) 319-5101  
LH/sdf:sp  
f:\users\dianne\06\06089.ids

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|   |   |    |                      |                        |                   |          |
|---|---|----|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> |   |    | Application Number   |                        | 10/569,167        |          |
|   |   |    | Filing Date          |                        | February 22, 2006 |          |
|   |   |    | First Named Inventor |                        | Keiichi TANAKA    |          |
|   |   |    | Group Art Unit       |                        |                   |          |
|   |   |    | Examiner Name        |                        |                   |          |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1                    | Attorney Docket Number |                   | 06089/LH |

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam.<br>Inits* | Cite<br>No <sup>1</sup> | Document Number | Kind<br>Code <sup>2</sup> | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant | Publication<br>Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant<br>Portion |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
|                 |                         | 2001/0035942    | A1                        | HARA et al                       | 11-01-2001                     |                     |

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam<br>Inits* | Cite<br>No <sup>1</sup> | Offc <sup>3</sup> | Document Number <sup>4</sup>  | Kind<br>Code <sup>5</sup> | Name of Patentee<br>or Applicant       | Publication<br>Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant<br>Portion | T <sup>6</sup> |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                |                         | JP                | 2000-223757   | A                         | KOMATSU LTD.                           | 08-11-2000                     |                     | x              |
|                |                         | JP                | 2001-345262   | A                         | CANON INC.                             | 12-14-2001                     |                     | x              |
|                |                         | JP                | 2003-071394   | A                         | DAINIPPON SCREEN<br>MFG. CO. LTD.      | 03-11-2003                     |                     | x              |
|                |                         | JP                | 2003-282423   | A                         | HITACHI HIGH-<br>TECHNOLOGIES<br>CORP. | 10-03-2003                     |                     | xx             |
|                |                         |                   | x (English<br>Abstract)   |                           |  |                                |                     |                |
|                |                         |                   | xx (English<br>Abstract and<br>machine<br>translation of<br>whole entire) |                           |  |                                |                     |                |

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |
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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: October 24, 2006